

## Calendar Events



Please continue to watch for updates on our website, email and Facebook. Feel free to contact the office with any questions  
920-848-2177.

NOVEMBER 2 & 4  
OCC Packing Parties  
(See inside for details)

NOVEMBER 5  
All Saints Sunday  
(Daylight Savings time ends. Set clocks back)

NOVEMBER 12  
Veterans' Sunday  
Semi Annual Meeting  
10AM

NOVEMBER 13-20  
OCC Collection Days

NOVEMBER 14  
1st Grade Faith  
Milestone Class 6PM

NOVEMBER 22  
Thanksgiving Fellowship  
Hot Dog Potluck 6PM  
Thanksgiving Eve Service  
Hosted by EPIC Youth  
7PM

NOVEMBER 23-24  
Office Closed for Thanksgiving  
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### COMING IN DECEMBER

DECEMBER 17  
Children's Christmas Program  
10:45 Service

DECEMBER 24  
Christmas Eve Services  
4PM & 6PM  
NO MORNING SERVICES

DECEMBER 25  
Christmas Day Service  
Combined Service at  
9:30AM



# Messenger November

Grace Lutheran Church 920-848-2177

501 S. Main St.

Oconto Falls, WI 54154

*Enter His gates with thanksgiving  
And His courts with praise!  
Psalm 100:4*

Greetings Grace Family!!

We have a lot to be thankful for here at Grace! A wonderful church family that is receptive to newcomers and visitors. A family that seeks to do God's will in our church, community and around the world. A family that focuses on putting God first in our lives and thanking Him for all he does in our lives.

As I write this letter, I'm reflecting on the many things we should be thankful for on a regular basis. Our JAM Sunday school program is drawing kids in and teaching them that Jesus loves them. Our EPIC Youth program is busting at the seams with nearly 50 kids every Wednesday night. There's a contagious enthusiasm happening with students bringing friends and then those friends are bringing their friends as well!

Operation Christmas Child has set the bar even higher yet again this year with challenging goals to get even more shoeboxes packed and mailed out this year. And once again this year, we hosted a community "Trunk-or-treat" celebration on a rather chilly halloween night. (was it 500 kiddos visiting again this year??)

We have a lot to be thankful for here at Grace. We are serving God's Kingdom in many different and effective ways. Psalm 100:2 instructs us to "Serve the Lord with gladness." If you take a quick look around this church, you'll quickly discover many different ways to serve the Lord with gladness. And that word 'gladness' can also be translated as "Joy" or better yet "eagerness!"

As we continue to discuss and unpack what it means to serve God's Kingdom, I invite you to explore new and exciting ways to get involved with the many activities here at Grace. Or when you read Psalm 100, would you rather just skip right over the top of verse two and head straight to the better sounding verse four?

In His peace,

*Pastor Gary*

## OFFICIAL ACTS—OCTOBER 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u> (includes designated giving)	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings Received</u>
Oct 1	8:30am	73	\$ 5,986.24
	10:45am	96	
	Online Giving .....		\$ 588.00
Oct 8	8:30am	76	\$ 5,852.09
	10:45am	67	
	Online Giving .....		\$ 1,028.00
Oct 15	8:30am	100	\$ 4,908.37
	10:45am	212	
	Online Giving .....		\$ 743.00
Oct 22	8:30am	77	\$ 9,498.18
	10:45am	97	
	Online Giving .....		\$ 868.50
Oct 29	9:30am	148	\$ 2,689.00
	Online Giving .....		\$ 588.00

### Financial Report

**Operations Checkbook (GENERAL OFFERING)** - Month of October

Beginning Balance 9/30/2023 .....	- \$ 1,627.10
Deposits Operating Fund .....	+ \$30,999.38
PPP Money rolled into Operating Fund .....	+ \$23,818.55
Disbursements Operating Fund.....	- \$23,598.96
Ending Balance 10/31/2023.....	+ \$29,591.87

Mortgage Loan Balance 10/08/2023.....	\$ 46,064.59
Monthly payment of principal.....	\$ 1,747.64
Monthly payment of interest.....	\$ 134.36
Additional principal.....	\$ 348.00



Please continue to support the Kingdom  
Come Food Pantry.

- ◆ Give a monetary donation here at church. Make checks payable to Grace Lutheran with note that it is for Kingdom Come and it will be sent to Kingdom Come and included on your yearly giving statement.
- ◆ Bring in food donations and place in the bin in the narthex. Donations are picked up by the pantry.

**Grace Lutheran Council Meeting Minutes**  
**October 16, 2023 @ 7:00PM**

Meeting was called to order by President Jared Alfson at 7:09pm.

**Present:** Jared Alfson, Allie McDonald, Melanie Rice, Kent Lyng, Heidi Anderson, Andy Shamburek, Faith Shamburek, Andy Mercier, Jeff Schullo, Pastor Gary Olson, Jerry Riste, Ellen Pritzlaff, Lyle Nichols

**Guest:** Holli Kussow

Opening Prayer by Allie McDonald & Devotion by Pastor Gary Olson

**Secretary's Report:** A motion was made by Heidi Anderson and seconded by Lyle Nichols to approve the September 2023 minutes without correction.

**Treasurer's Report:** Andy Shamburek provided a paper report detailing a net operating loss of approximately \$9,000. Our income is up approximately \$14,000 compared to this point last year and our expenses are up approximately \$7,000. Heidi Anderson made a motion to move the COVID PPP fund to the operating fund and Allie McDonald seconded it. Andy Mercier made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Jerry Riste seconded it.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business**

**Semi-Annual Meeting Date** has been set for **November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am** - between services.

**2024 Budget Proposal** – committee reports have been provided to the Treasurer and we will present an updated budget to the congregation for their review and approval at the semi-annual meeting on 11/12 at 10:00am

**November Council Meeting Date** has been moved to 11/13 at 7pm

**Upcoming Events**

**October 29: Fellowship Sunday & First Communion (Bacon & Banter Theme)**

**October 30: OCC Packing Party** – starting at 6:30pm

**October 31: Trunk or Treat** – 3:30 parking / 4-6pm candy distribution – Candy donations will be accepted!

**November 2: OCC Packing Party** – starting at 6:30pm

**November 4: OCC Packing Party** – starting at 9:30am

**November 5: All Saints Sunday** – contact Holli to add anyone to the list

**November 12: Veterans' Day** – contact Holli to add anyone to the list

**November 13-20: OCC Collection Week** – sign up in the Narthex

**November 22: Thanksgiving Eve Soup/Sandwich Potluck (6PM) & Service (7pm) Hosted by EPIC Youth Group**  
– hot dogs and chips will be provided – please bring a dish to pass

**November 23-24: Office Closed for Thanksgiving**

**Committee Reports**

**Evangelism** – Jeff Schullo reported on the continued success of the For God's Glory Luncheon – 66 lunches served this month.

**Parish Education** – Heidi Anderson reported high attendance at J.A.M. We need volunteers – all lessons are detailed and created prior to class. There will be a Christmas program on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> during second service. Practice will begin in November.

**Parish Fellowship** – Andy Mercier highlighted the Confirmation Sunday attendance numbers – 100 at the first service and 212 at the second service.

**Property & Maintenance** – Kent Lyng reported that the west wing basement furnace has been replaced. Thank you to Jeff (and Jackson) McDonald for completing that project. He has been working on obtaining estimates for the work plan for next year as well as taking care of small maintenance items.

**Public Relations** – Jared Alfson reported that the church website will be maintained and updated using the time and talents in the congregation. We will work to make sure that all communication avenues are used when things are going on at Grace.

**Stewardship** – Ellen Pritzlaff reported that there is an online sign up for church directory photos: [www.graceocontofalls.org/directory](http://www.graceocontofalls.org/directory). Please sign up! Max Lucado's study "Help is Here" will begin this month. Small groups can meet on Sundays or Thursdays – the curriculum will be the same just on the different days.

**Youth Ministry** – Faith Shamburek reported that EPIC Youth has the following volunteer opportunities: **10/31** - Trunk or Treat and **12/7 Live Nativity Event on Main St** – we need guys to be shepherds and wisemen.

**Worship & Music** – Lyle Nichols reported that the usher duties for each service will be updated and reprinted. Christmas Eve 2023 is on a Sunday. We will have 4pm (traditional) and 6pm (contemporary) services only. We will host a 9:30am Christmas Day service.

**Endowment** – Melanie Rice reported no update at this time.

**Long Range Planning** – Jerry Riste reported that the committee is exploring a vision for the church using these themes: 1.) When people enter the Christian life, they are not entering a playground but a battleground, we are behind enemy lines and 2.) Ephesians 6: 10-18 – putting on the Whole Armor of God. LRP has met with the Maintenance Committee and the Men's Group. The Maintenance Committee has a running list of capital improvements that LRP will help with. The next project is replacement of the fellowship hall flooring. The Safety Committee had no activities this past month.

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor Gary highlighted Jeremiah 33 and Psalm 37. We need to keep in mind kingdom and covenant. We have responsibilities and He has promises.

Andy Mercier made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jerry Riste seconded it. Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allie McDonald  
Council Secretary



Congratulations to our 2023 Confirmands  
Front Row: Garret Shallow, Ali Kramer, Laila Collar, Emery Pagel, Maggie Kaczmarek, Taylor Derouin  
Back Row: Kennedy Alaniva, Croix Gardebrecht, Jack Alfson, Mason Arndt, Brylee Gorman, Madi Lasley, Pastor Gary



Congratulations to our students making their  
First Communion  
Aubree Wilcox, Makayla Derouin, Chance Garbrecht, Carter Raygo, Maverick Riemer  
(Missing from photo: Gus Siolka & Mason Rajkovich)





# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

## BIRTHDAYS

		12	Emma Delzer
			Melissa Desterheft
		13	Danna Magnin
		15	Alex Haines
			Doris Knox
			Rachel Krieser
			Don Van Ark
		19	Bronson Bero
			Taylor Jaeger
			David Kaczmarek
			Gary Olson
			Heather Neta
		20	Ginny Just
			Gene Miller
			Faith Shamburek
			Grace Shamburek
		21	Ciara Jarvey
		22	Callie Gagnon
			Chris Siolka
			Robert Thomson
		23	Kody Vorpahl
		25	Laurie Fries
			Vic Peterson
			Emil Groth Jr
		26	Charlotte Kopczynski
		27	Rachel Collar
1	Greta Collar		
	Laurie Fischer		
	Evan Jaeger		
3	Kathy Borisch		
	Allison Pagel		
	Randy Nelson		
4	Dylan Thomson		
5	Christopher Radke		
6	Marlene Krueger		
7	Clint Gardebrecht		
	Zach Le Mere		
	Wally Remic		
8	Amber Haines		
	Lisa Shamburek		
10	Heather Trempe		
11	Michael Montie		

# NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

2	Joseph & Rachel Collar
5	Dave & Kathy Borisch
	Bill & Sally Holtz
9	Len & Carol Burns
11	Tony & Jean Zielinski
13	Randy & Yvonne Nelson
17	Kim & Ellen Pritzlaff
25	Mark & Nancy Brye
	Gary & Barbara Olson

# Prayer REQUESTS

## GRACE MEMBERS

Carol Burns	Continued healing/strength
Donnie Drews Jr.	Recovery - liver transplant
Dorothy Ellner	Strength/healing
Jerry Heim	Strength/healing
Marilyn Hennig	Health concerns
Rita Krause & Andy Graef	Loss of son, Henry
Diane Malcomson	Health concerns
Lorraine Murphy	Strength/healing
Randy Nelson	Macular degeneration
Lyle Nichols	Cancer
Bonnie Peterson	B-Cell lymphoma
Julia Schullo	Strength/healing
Bob Thomson	Health concerns
Don VanArk	Health concerns
Don Voermans	Health concerns
Leslie (Butch) Vorpahl	Cancer treatment

## FAMILY/FRIENDS OF GRACE

Janice Bloemer	Breast cancer & dementia
Ashleigh Mercier Bordelais	Breast cancer
Kevin Breuninger	Lung cancer
Liam Britzke	MPGN-Disease of kidneys
Ethan Burant	Complications -liver transplant
Kim (Capelle) Fischer	Health concerns
Angela Heim	Health concerns
Larry & Barb Hillyer	Healing & support
Bryant Hodkiewicz	Cancer treatment
Carol Hostrawser	Health concerns
Maggie Jones	Cancer treatment
Cathy Kaster	Rare progressive dementia
David Majeski	Continued strength/healing
Greg Meilahn	Liver transplant
David Nelson	Awaiting new kidney
Brett Nichols	Strength/healing
Peterson Family	Loss of Toby
Sharon Raatz	Health concerns
Rollyn Radke	Health concerns
Amira Rynish	Leukemia
David Scheffdore	Dialysis
Bob Schindel	Health concerns
Vern Tamura	Cancer
Mary Thompson	Cancer treatment
Ruth Trudell	Healing & recovery
Gail Venne	Cancer treatment
Carol Weber	Healing & recovery
Amy Winkler	Cancer recovery

## October Baptisms

OCTOBER 1, 2023  
**ELI JAMES VAN CLEVE**  
 PARENTS: NICK & CHYNA  
 VAN CLEVE

OCTOBER 22, 2023  
**CHARLOTTE VITORIA ANDERSON**  
 PARENTS: RYAN AND HEIDI  
 ANDERSON



Please email [grace@gracecontofalls.org](mailto:grace@gracecontofalls.org)  
 or call the office at 920-848-2177.

# GRACE MEETINGS & SCHEDULES

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER COMMUNION DUTIES

### November 5

SET UP 8:30: Pam Langlay  
CLEAN UP 8:30: Pam Langlay  
CLEAN UP 10:45: Andy & Jenny Mercier

### November 19

SET UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng  
CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng  
CLEAN UP 10:45: Sue Mogged

### December 3

SET UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng  
CLEAN UP 8:30: Rosemary Lyng  
CLEAN UP 10:45: Jenny & Andy Mercier

### December 17

SET UP 8:30: Kriss Krause  
CLEAN UP 8:30: Kriss Krause  
CLEAN UP 10:45: Paul & Sue Mogged

### December 25 Christmas Day

SET UP 9:30: Call to volunteer  
CLEAN UP 9:30: Call to volunteer

### December 31

SET UP 9:30: Pam Langlay  
CLEAN UP 9:30: Pam Langlay

## COMMUNION BREAD SCHEDULE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

NOVEMBER 5: Pam Langlay  
NOVEMBER 19: Rosemary Lyng  
NOVEMBER 22: Sue Mogged  
(Thanksgiving Eve)  
DECEMBER 3: Rosemary Lyng  
DECEMBER 17: Kelly Haselhuhn  
DECEMBER 25: Susan Krumrei



**MEN'S  
BREAKFAST**

JOIN US!!!

**FAITH, FOOD &  
FELLOWSHIP**

Saturday, November 4  
8:00-10:00am

PLEASE JOIN US

SEMI-ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL



**MEE+TING**

Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> @ 10AM

**W&M and COUNCIL MEETINGS**


November 13, 2023  
Worship & Music Meeting 6PM  
Council Meeting 7PM

TO GOD'S GLORY



**UPCOMING DATE!**  
Free Luncheon / Social  
Tuesday, November 14 @ Grace  
Serving 11:30AM-1:30PM  
All are welcome.

Looking for volunteers for serving. We also need volunteers to help prepare the food. Please contact Pam Langlay if you're able to help. (920) 373-2731



**Women of Grace Meeting**  
November 14 @ 6:30PM  
All women are welcome!

# GRACE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



FOR WHAT ARE YOU GETTING READY?  
Fall weather? Hunting season? The holidays?  
**OCC Packing Parties?**

There will be three packing parties, one for each age group. Choose one or come to all three. They are held like an open house; come when you can. Come to the church basement.

**Tuesday October 30th at 6:30pm ages 2-4**  
**Thursday Nov. 2nd at 6:30pm ages 5-10**  
**Saturday Nov.4th at 9:30am ages 11-14**

## OCC Thank You's

To everyone who has donated throughout the year by dropping off in the blue tote, be it shoeboxes or items for the children.

To the Women's and Men's groups at Grace for their generous contributions.

To congregants who have donated throughout the year. We are able to pack 30 more boxes this year because of your generosity.

To True Value Hardware who help us order items at their cost and have made a generous contribution.

To the dozen people who helped at the PrePacking Prep and anyone who will attend the packing parties.

I pray that God is pleased with our offerings and will bless the recipients who will learn of His love for us.



Enjoy baking? Please feel free to bring in goodies on Sundays for our fellowship between services. Thanks!

## Grace Lutheran Church Directory

Photo sessions will be scheduled for Nov 5 from 10am-4pm, Nov 7, 8 and 9 from 5-8pm, and Nov 12 from 10am-4pm. There are sign up sheets in the church office or you can sign up online at [graceocontofalls.org/directory](http://graceocontofalls.org/directory). Sign up early so you can get the time slot that works best for you. If you have any questions please contact Pam Langlay 920-373-2731 or Jared Alfson 920-246-7748.



Veterans Day Sunday  
November 12th

In addition to our Semi Annual Meeting on November 12th, we also would like to celebrate Veterans Day and recognize our members who are veterans or currently serving.

If you are a veteran or have a member currently serving, please email Holli at [grace@graceocontofalls.org](mailto:grace@graceocontofalls.org) or call 848-2177 to let her know the name and branch of service.  
Thank you.



## National Collection Week Is Almost Here!!

Grace Lutheran Church is a point of collection in our area for the shoeboxes headed throughout the world. You can become involved in serving by receiving the boxes, representing the love of Jesus for all. The church is open for collection just two hours a day; your help is welcome any part of that time.

### Collection times are as follows:

Monday, Nov 13	10:00am - 12:00pm
Tuesday, Nov 14	4:00pm - 6:00pm
Wednesday, Nov 15	11:30am - 1:30pm
Thursday, Nov 16	3:30pm - 5:30pm
Friday, Nov 17	5:00pm - 7:00pm
Saturday, Nov 18	10:00am - 12:00pm
Sunday, Nov 19	12:00pm - 2:30pm
Monday, Nov 20	7:30am - 9:30am

If you would like to volunteer to greet friendly, Christian people and help count and pack their boxes, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or call Ellen at 920-362-5752.



Sundays following the  
8:30AM Service  
Prayer Room



# GRACE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



*Volunteers  
Needed!*

The Christmas Season is almost upon us!

We ask that any greeters, ushers, communion assistants and readers please contact the office if you are able to help at any of the Christmas services. The dates and times are as follows:

December 24-4pm (Traditional Service)

December 24-6pm (Contemporary Svc)

December 25-9:30am (Traditional Svc)

Please call 920-848-2177 or email Holli at [grace@graceocontofalls.org](mailto:grace@graceocontofalls.org) to volunteer.



Each week we will need crew leaders to lead the kids around and station leaders to lead fun activities through provided lesson plans.

Go to:

[vbspro.events/p/jam2023-24](https://vbspro.events/p/jam2023-24)

Click on:

**Volunteer Registration**

Or call the office at

**920-848-2177**

## Snow Shoveling

We are in need of individuals we can call on for snow blowing/ shoveling the sidewalks as needed. This would be a paid position. Please contact the office for information or to be added to the list to help.



(920) 848-2217

Thank you!







# Youth news

# NOVEMBER



## November Faith Milestone 1st Grade Bibles

### Parent/Student Bible Class

Tuesday, November 14  
6:00PM

### Bible Presentations

Sunday, December 3 @ both services



- 5:30-6PM Meal for Confirmation students
- 6-6:30PM Confirmation Class Meal for Sr High
- 6:30-8PM EPIC Youth Group (7th - 12th Grade)

Wednesday Night Parent  
Meal Schedule - November  
Serving: 5:30 - 6:30PM

- Nov 1: Rices
- Nov 8: Pagels
- Nov 15: Derouins
- Nov 22: Fellowship potluck
- Nov 29: Shallows

## Thanksgiving Eve Service

Led by the  
EPIC Youth Group  
November 22 @ 7PM

6:00PM Potluck before  
service.

Church will provide hot dogs. Please  
bring a dish to pass.

**All are welcome!!!!**

Page-Borders.com



December 17th  
@ 10:45am  
Service

# Service Duty Schedule

NOV/DEC

## NOVEMBER SERVICES

### November 5 - Communion

#### 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Kent Lyng / Adam Haselhuhn

Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols

Communion Set Up: Pam Langlay

Communion Assistant: Brad & Pam Langlay

Communion Clean Up: Brad & Pam Langlay

#### 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Donna & Jerry Heim

Lay Reader: Donna Heim

Communion Assistant: Andy & Jenny Mercier

Communion Clean Up: Andy & Jenny Mercier

Money Count: Pam Langlay / Kriss Krause

### November 12

#### 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Kandice Bero & Zoey Thomson

Lay Reader: Randy Nelson

#### 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Klitzka Family

Lay Reader: Ellen Pritzlaff

Money Count: Andy Shamburek / Jared Alfson

### November 19 - Communion

#### 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Brad & Pam Langlay

Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols

Communion Set Up: Rosemary Lyng

Communion Assistant: Barb & Jeff Schullo

Communion Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

#### 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald

Lay Reader: Allie McDonald

Communion Assistant: Paul & Sue Mogged

Communion Clean Up: Sue Mogged

Money Count: Paul Mogged / Allie McDonald

### November 22—Thanksgiving Eve

#### 7:00PM Service

EPIC Youth will serve for this service.

### November 26

#### 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Beth Lehner / Vicki Thomson

Lay Reader: Josh Wendt

#### 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Shamburek Family

Lay Reader: Faith Shamburek

Money Count: Holli Kussov

## DECEMBER SERVICES

### December 3 - Communion

#### 8:30AM Service

Ushers & Reader: Riste/Blom Family

Communion Set Up/Clean Up: Rosemary Lyng

Communion Assistant: Pam & Brad Langlay

#### 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Donna and Jerry Heim

Lay Reader: Donna Heim

Communion Assistant & Clean Up: Andy & Jenny Mercier

Money Count: Mike Krause / Kent Lyng

### December 10

#### 8:30AM Service

Ushers: Josh Wendt & Beth Lehner

Lay Reader: Josh Wendt

#### 10:45AM Service

Ushers: Klitzka Family

Lay Reader: Angie Magnin

Money Count: Angie Magnin / Linda Reidinger

### December 17 - Communion

#### 8:30AM Service—A Christmas Suite by Choir

Ushers: Kent Lyng / Adam Haselhuhn

Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols

Communion Set Up: Kriss Krause

Communion Assistant: Barb & Jeff Schullo

Communion Clean Up: Kriss Krause

#### 10:45AM Service—Children's Program

Ushers: Shamburek Family

Lay Reader: Sue Mogged

Communion Assistant & Clean Up: Paul & Sue Mogged

Money Count: Paul Mogged / Allie McDonald

### December 24

#### Christmas Eve Service 4PM

Ushers: **PLEASE CALL TO VOLUNTEER**

Lay Reader: **PLEASE CALL TO VOLUNTEER**

#### Christmas Eve Service 6PM

Ushers: **PLEASE CALL TO VOLUNTEER**

Lay Reader: **PLEASE CALL TO VOLUNTEER**

### December 25 - Communion

#### 9:30AM Service

Ushers: **PLEASE CALL TO VOLUNTEER**

Lay Reader: Lyle Nichols

Money Count (will count all three Christmas services)

### DECEMBER 31—COMMUNION

#### 9:30AM Service

Ushers: Jeff & Allie McDonald

Lay Reader: Allie McDonald

Communion Set Up: Pam Langlay

Communion Assistant & Clean Up: Pam & Brad Langlay

Money Count: Andy Shamburek / Jared Alfson